

**Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting of the Aurora City Council**  
**City/Town Government Center**  
**Tuesday, November, 12, 2019**  
**5:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mayor Gregor, Councilors Worshek, Cromley, Lakso, and Jofs

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Becky Lammi, Aurora City Administrator; Jan Moore, Spruce Up Aurora

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Gregor at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to approve the consent agenda items:**

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|---------------------------|--|
| 5. Approval of Minutes –  | Regular City of Aurora Council Meeting – October 1, 2019   |
| 6. Approval of Receipts – | October 2019 – \$105,991.65  |
| 7. Approval for Payment – | Disbursements for October 2019 – \$196,938.83<br>Payroll for October 2019 – \$87,143.16  |
| 8. Correspondence –       | Arrowhead Regional Development Commission – nomination request.<br>St. Louis County – public hearing notice.<br>Minnesota Department of Health – quarterly report, TOC/alkalinity monitoring for the control of disinfection byproduct precursors.<br>Canadian National American in Bloom – grant notification.  |
| 12. Community Comments –  | 06/06/2019 – Conditions of the roads in the Cemetery.<br><u>Resolution:</u> Public Works has forwarded the complaint to the Cemetery Board.<br>06/07/2019 – Blight concerns on W 1 <sup>st</sup> Ave N.<br><u>Resolution:</u> East Range Police Department has forwarded the property information to Public Works.<br>06/09/2019 – Blight concerns on 222 W 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ave N.<br><u>Resolution:</u> East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.<br>06/10/2019 – Dead tree on boulevard on N 3 <sup>rd</sup> St W.<br><u>Resolution:</u> Public Works will look at removal in the near future.<br>06/19/2019 – Potholes on 2 <sup>nd</sup> St E.<br><u>Resolution:</u> Public Works has requested the contractor fills the potholes.<br>06/21/2019 – Blight concerns on 209 S 3 <sup>rd</sup> St W.<br><u>Resolution:</u> East Range Police Department has addressed the concern.<br>07/02/2019 – Blight concerns on 20 E 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave N.<br><u>Resolution:</u> East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating. |

07/02/2019 – Blight concerns on 200 block of W 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/02/2019 – Blight concern on in alley on 200 block between W 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave and W 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/05/2019 – Blight concern at 312 S. Main St.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/19/2019 – Pot holes between 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave W and 4<sup>th</sup> Ave W, and 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S.  
Resolution: Public Works has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/22/2019 – Road repair at 324 S 1<sup>st</sup> St E.  
Resolution: Public Works has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/23/2019 – Blight concern in backyards between Arrowhead and Summit.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/25/2019 – Blight concern at 321 W 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave N.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/26/2019 – Road concerns on W 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N.  
Resolution: Public Works has received the complaint and is investigating.

07/29/2019 – Blight concern in backyards between Arrowhead and Summit – 2<sup>nd</sup> form.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

08/20/2019 – Blight concern on 709 Summit Street.  
Resolution: City Council has received the complaint.

08/22/2019 – Blight concern on 318 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave N.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

08/22/2019 – Blight concern on 321 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave N.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

09/13/2019 – Blight concern 200 S 6<sup>th</sup> St E.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

09/20/2019 – Blight concern on 20 Erie St.  
Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

09/30/2019 – Construction issue on S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. W.  
Resolution: Public Works has received the complaint and is investigating.

10/17/2019 – Hole in alley by Methodist Church.

Resolution: Public Works has added class 5 to the alley, and it was graded.

10/30/2019 – Sewer smell on S. 6<sup>th</sup> St. E.

Resolution: Public Works has received the complaint and is investigating.

10/31/2019 – Sewer smell on S. 6<sup>th</sup> St. E.

Resolution: Public Works has received the complaint and is investigating.

11/08/2019 – Blight concern at 315 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.

Resolution: East Range Police Department has received the complaint and is investigating.

13. Reports from Boards  
and Commissions –

Aurora Library Board – October 17, 2019

Aurora Cemetery Board – October 23, 2019

**Motion carried unanimously.**

|                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1st Ayd Corporation                 | \$ 214.10    |
| ALEX AIR APPARATUS, INC.            | \$ 632.00    |
| AMERICAN BANK OF THE NORTH          | \$ 1,602.18  |
| AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING CORP      | \$ 1,487.90  |
| AMPTEK INC.                         | \$ 196.00    |
| APG MEDIA OF MN                     | \$ 127.19    |
| ARROWHEAD LIBRARY SYSTEM            | \$ 55.22     |
| AT&T MOBILITY                       | \$ 177.01    |
| BAKER & TAYLOR BOOKS                | \$ 483.69    |
| BENCHMARK ENGINEERING, INC.         | \$ 2,760.00  |
| BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF MN          | \$ 118.70    |
| BOLTON & MENK, INC.                 | \$ 15,919.50 |
| BRADACH LUMBER                      | \$ 184.28    |
| C & C WINGER, INC.                  | \$ 12,237.50 |
| C.W. DIRTWORKS                      | \$ 1,072.50  |
| CARQUEST AURORA                     | \$ 383.61    |
| CHRIS VREELAND                      | \$ 201.18    |
| CHRISTENSEN PARTS SERVICE INC       | \$ 213.41    |
| CINTAS                              | \$ 38.88     |
| CITY OF HOYT LAKES                  | \$ 350.00    |
| CLIMATE AIR, INC.                   | \$ 18,016.45 |
| COLOSIMO, PATCHIN, KEARNEY          | \$ 520.00    |
| COMPASS MINERALS AMERICA            | \$ 3,651.96  |
| CORE & MAIN LP                      | \$ 2,261.43  |
| CULLIGAN OF NORTHEAST MINNESOT      | \$ 39.00     |
| CW TECHNOLOGY                       | \$ 2,311.75  |
| DEMCO INC.                          | \$ 248.68    |
| DOROTHY MUGGE                       | \$ 80.00     |
| DOUGLAS GREGOR                      | \$ 209.85    |
| EAST RANGE JOINT POWERS             | \$ 3,750.00  |
| EAST RANGE POLICE DEPT              | \$ 33,565.45 |
| EAST RANGE SHOPPER                  | \$ 1,380.41  |
| ECONO SIGNS LLC                     | \$ 482.94    |
| EVELETH FLORAL CO. & GREENHOUS, INC | \$ 85.00     |
| FERGUS POWER PUMP INC               | \$ 30,154.00 |
| FRONTIER                            | \$ 877.40    |
| GALE/CENGAGE LEARNING               | \$ 40.18     |
| GOPHER STATE ONE CALL               | \$ 71.55     |
| GUARDIAN PEST SOLUTIONS INC.        | \$ 35.00     |
| HAWKINS INC.                        | \$ 993.14    |
| HIBBING COMMUNITY COLLEGE           | \$ 395.00    |

|                                    |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS        | \$ 258.91    |
| JORDAN HRONOSKI                    | \$ 56.00     |
| LORA JONES                         | \$ 8.62      |
| MACQUEEN EMERGENCY GROUP           | \$ 3,847.58  |
| MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT                 | \$ 1,348.81  |
| MENARDS - VIRGINIA                 | \$ 176.76    |
| MESABA DRUG & MARKETPLACE          | \$ 150.00    |
| MESABI EAST SCHOOLS - ISD 2711     | \$ 1,243.74  |
| MESABI SIGN COMPANY                | \$ 46.10     |
| METRO SALES                        | \$ 265.58    |
| MICROMARKETING LLC                 | \$ 179.98    |
| MIDWEST TAPE                       | \$ 26.56     |
| MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCES         | \$ 903.74    |
| MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY | \$ 45.00     |
| MINNESOTA POWER                    | \$ 8,548.29  |
| MINNESOTA TELECOMMUNICATIONS       | \$ 349.80    |
| MITEL                              | \$ 345.74    |
| MN STATE FIRE DEPT. ASSOC.         | \$ 175.00    |
| PORTABLE JOHN                      | \$ 212.50    |
| PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION INC.          | \$ 109.66    |
| RANGE OFFICE SUPPLY                | \$ 486.34    |
| RANGE PAPER                        | \$ 91.77     |
| RAPID ROOTER SEWER & DRAIN INC     | \$ 675.00    |
| RED TOP CONSTRUCTION LLC           | \$ 2,270.00  |
| RMB ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORIES     | \$ 2,321.00  |
| ROGERS ONLINE                      | \$ 399.20    |
| SERVICE SOLUTIONS INC              | \$ 112.00    |
| SHRED RIGHT                        | \$ 15.00     |
| SKUBIC BROS. INTERNATIONAL         | \$ 16.56     |
| SPEE DEE DELIVERY SERVICE INC.     | \$ 16.97     |
| ST. LOUIS COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE  | \$ 607.72    |
| THE CONTROL COMPANY                | \$ 855.80    |
| TOMAHAWK FORD                      | \$ 28,894.49 |
| TOWN OF WHITE                      | \$ 2,372.79  |
| U.S. POSTAL SERVICE                | \$ 235.00    |
| U.S. POSTAL SERVICE (NEOPOST)      | \$ 250.00    |
| VERIZON                            | \$ 15.70     |
| VERIZON WIRELESS                   | \$ 35.01     |
| VER-TECH INC.                      | \$ 218.15    |
| VIVID DESIGN                       | \$ 410.00    |
| WM RECYCLE AMERICA                 | \$ 717.92    |

#### APPEARANCES / PUBLIC FORUM

Mark Roalson, Ski Trails –

Mr. Roalson had concerns about the pass ability of the Ski Trails this winter. They are used by the school and many locals. Councilor Worshek said that the trails are taken care of for this season.

#### REPORT FROM STAFF MEMBERS

Jan Moore, Spruce Up Aurora –  
All in hibernation.

Paula Chapman, Library Director –

The Aurora Friends of the Library book sale went well; thank you to all who donated items for the sale and who all who came to it! The library has a wonderful group of Friends; 16 adults, 3 teens, and 1 child spent 87 hours and 20 minutes helping with setting up, running, and cleaning up after the sale. Proceeds of the sale are used toward additional library programs and services. This year's Quilt Show, the leather bracelet-making workshop, and the presentation by Mark Munger were all well-attended, and comments about all have been positive. There are currently no big events scheduled for November, but plans are in the works for programs in December and beyond.

#### REPORT FROM COUNCILORS

Councilor Worshek –

Discussed the good turnout for election day, congratulated Mayor Gregor and Councilor Jofs on being re-elected, and congratulated our new city councilor member, Talicia Honkola. Informed everyone to watch for plows and to follow alternate parking. The East Range Police Department's negotiations are to begin soon.

Councilor Worshek asked where we were at with the land sale to Scott Henry; City Administrator Lammi indicated the City is still researching easements.

Councilor Cromley –

Congratulations to those who ran for office. Thank you for stepping up and thinking outside of the box. The Fire Department has the Live Burn with Hoyt Lakes Fire Department coming up. There are applications for this available to the public. Also, the Fire Department will host Santa Clause on December 13.

Councilor Lakso –

Councilor Lakso said congratulations to the successful candidates, and said thanks to Richard Hess and Dave Meyer for running for office. He added that the DNR City Hunt is going well. There have been 14 deer harvested so far.

Councilor Jofs –

Councilor Jofs said thank you to the voters and said congratulations to Mayor Gregor and Talicia Honkola. She added to watch out for slick roads.

#### REPORT FROM MAYOR

Mayor Gregor echoed congratulations from council. He is hoping to get things in the East Range Shopper soon. The Al Hodnik award event was a major success. The turnout was great. Also, there was a good

turnout at the Food Shelf event. They sold out 2/3 of the way in to the event. At the CAP Meeting Minnesota Power discussed electric vehicles, they were also later on agenda.

#### OLD BUSINESS

**Moved by Worshek supported by Jofs to table the East Mesabi Sanitation request for December's Regular City Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### NEW BUSINESS

The City presented Jan Moore with a thank you for 30 years of service with Spruce Up Aurora.

Moved by Cromley to direct the City Administrator to contact ISD 2711 regarding the ski trails. Dies for lack of second

**Moved by Worshek supported by Jofs to approve the Caring for Kids request for the fundraising sign to be placed at the Community Center, location based on the Gopher State One. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Cromley supported by Worshek to approve Caring for Kids request for the selling and placement of bricks for a fundraiser to pay for the City of Aurora's splash pad. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Jofs to approve Caring for Kids request a 20 ft. by 20 ft. area near the splash pad for bricks; to be professionally installed at Caring for Kids' expense. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Lakso to approve Caring for Kids for the City to pay for the costs of maintenance ongoing for the bricks. This will be reviewed annually. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Jofs to have Public Works Director, Wayne Thuringer, move or adjust and move sign on North Main Street as needed. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Jofs to approve Resolution 2019-19 dedicating Aurora's Polling Place for 2020. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Cromley supported by Worshek to direct City Administrator to apply for EV Charging Station to Minnesota Power. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Cromley supported by Jofs to approve siren estimate. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Lakso supported by Worshek to approve Carrie Braaten for the vacant Aurora Library board seat, with a term ending in December 2020. Motion carried unanimously.**

Discussing on Resolution 2019-20. No action taken, as City has not made a determination where the remaining balance of funds would be located.

**Moved by Worshek supported by Jofs to approve Resolution 2019-21 Authorizing the City of Aurora to Make Application To and Accept Funds From the Saint Louis County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) FY2020 Program. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Jofs to table the Safety Committee requests for AED grant application. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Gregor supported by Lakso to approve Councilor Worshek as RAMS nomination for Board of Directors. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Jofs supported by Worshek to approve Celebrate Aurora's request to use the former recreation closet for storage. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Jofs to table Celebrate Aurora's request store the bouncy houses at the large cemetery garage. Motion carried unanimously.**

Discussion took place on the Cemetery Board's request to remove council liaison voting rights. The city policy would stand. No action taken.

**Moved by Jofs supported by Lakso to approve the Utility Bill certification request to certify to county. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Jofs supported by Worshek to direct the City Administrator to solicit quotes for the City Hall roof. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Jofs to pass Brownsfield Resolution and submit letter of support. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Gregor supported by Jofs to approve Walker, Giroux, and Hahne contract for FY 2019 audit. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Jofs supported by Worshek to approve City of Aurora's changes to the Rules of Procedure. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Jofs to table Union Contract Negotiation Strategy meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

Next meeting, Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**  
Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

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Doug Gregor, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Becky Lammi, City Administrator